

**CLAIM SET AS AMENDED**

1. (Original) A protective barrier arrangement to be placed between a plant pot and the supporting surface which is adapted to be assembled into predetermined configuration depending on the size of the pot, comprising a plurality of plastic slat-like members of given height, width and length, each provided with assembling means for assembling the slat-like members in predetermined configuration, including a number of pegs and holes, whereby the number of pegs on one side of a slat-like member corresponds to a similarly arranged number of holes on the other side of the slat-like member, and wherein a further number of similarly arranged holes is provided on said one side which are disposed substantially symmetrically with respect to the transverse center plane of the slat-like member to permit rotation of each last lateral slat-like member to conceal and protect the pegs thereof.

2. (Original) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 1, wherein said slat-like members are injection-molded parts.

3. (Original) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 1, further comprising moisture-retaining means in the top surface of the slat-like member.

4. (Original) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 3, wherein said moisture-retaining means is in the form of a depression in the top surface of the slat-like member.

5. (Original) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 4, wherein said depression is substantially symmetrically shaped.

6. (Original) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 4, wherein said depression has a shape resembling a triangle.

7. (Original) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 4, wherein said depression has a curvilinear shape.

8. (Original) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 4, wherein said depression extends over at least a substantial part of the length of a slat-like member.

9. (Original) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 8, wherein said depression extends over substantially the entire length of a slat-like member and is closed at each end thereof.

10. (Original) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 7, wherein said depression slants downward toward one end.

11. (Original) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 10, wherein said depression is provided with means at said last-mentioned end to drain said channel when the water level increases to a predetermined height.

12. (Original) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 7, wherein said depression extends uninterruptedly from one end to the other and means are provided in the form of a small drainage hole at one end thereof to permit slow drainage at said one end.

13. (Original) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the number of pegs and similarly arranged holes is at least two.

14. (Original) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the number of pegs and similarly arranged holes is three.

15. (New) A protective barrier arrangement to be placed between a plant pot and the supporting surface which is adapted to be assembled into predetermined configuration depending on the size of the pot, comprising a plurality of plastic slat-like members having a top surface, a bottom surface and two side surfaces of given height, width and length, each provided with assembling means at the side surfaces for assembling the slat-like members in predetermined configuration, including a number of pegs and holes, whereby the exposed ends of the pegs have a length smaller than the width of a given slat-like member and whereby the number of pegs on one side of a slat-like member corresponds to a similarly arranged number of holes on the other side of the slat-like member, and wherein a further number of similarly arranged holes is provided on said one side which are disposed substantially symmetrically with respect to the transverse center plane of the slat-like member to permit rotation of each last lateral slat-like member to conceal and protect the pegs thereof.

16. (New) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 15, wherein the depth of the holes in a given slat-like member is smaller than the width of the slat-like member.

17. (New) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 15, further comprising moisture-retaining means in the top surface of the slat-like member and wherein said moisture-retaining means is in the form of a depression in the top surface of the slat-like member.

18. (New) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 17, wherein said depression slants downward toward one end and is provided with means at said last-mentioned end to drain said channel.

19. (New) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 1, wherein said pegs are of such length that the exposed length thereof is smaller than the width of a given slot-like member.